

Dredge Permitting Issue Update

CALFED Levee Program staff and DFG staff met with the Regional Water Quality Control Board- Central Valley Region on December 16th to discuss the Category III sediment toxicity study. One important goal of the Cat III study is to supply information to the Regional Board necessary for the processing of general permits for dredging in the Delta. The purpose of the meeting was to get the Board's buy-in to the approach outlined in Task descriptions for the study prepared by DFG and to discuss how the study products will fit into the overall effort to obtain general permits for dredging. The Board was supportive of the direction the study is taking. It was agreed that the Board will develop a comprehensive list of what needs to be done to obtain general permits for dredging and how the Cat III study fits into the effort. Other key suggestions included that maximum use be made of other ongoing projects (such as other Cat III projects) for study data. It was also suggested and agreed by the Board that high level Agency people, such as senior Board members, should be on the panel overseeing the study.